

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
2 modifying an original header associated with an original data packet wherein key
3 information is added, wherein the modifying an original header further includes identifying at
4 least one field in the original header for transporting packet assembly information and
5 replacing the packet assembly information in the field with at least a portion of the key
6 information;
7 encrypting original data associated with the original data packet in response to the key
8 information; and
9 forming an encrypted data packet including [[the]] a modified header and [[the]]
10 encrypted data, wherein the modified header is a same size as the original header.

1 2. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1 further comprising
2 receiving a unique key identifier associated with the encrypted data packet.

1 3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 2 wherein the
2 modifying further comprises modifying the original header in response to the unique key
3 identifier.

1 4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein the
2 modifying further comprises replacing [[the]] a fragmentation identification and a fragment
3 offset of the original header with a mixing key and an offset.

1 5. (Original) The method according to claim 1 wherein the original data packet
2 and the encrypted data packet utilize Internet Protocol version 4.

1 6. A system comprising:
2 means for modifying an original header associated with an original data packet
3 wherein key information is added, wherein the means for modifying an original header further
4 includes the means for identifying at least one field in the original header for transporting
5 packet assembly information and replacing the packet assembly information in the field with
6 at least a portion of the key information;
7 means for encrypting original data associated with the original data packet in response
8 to the key information; and
9 means for forming an encrypted data packet including ~~[[the]]~~ a modified header and
10 ~~[[the]]~~ encrypted data, wherein the modified header is a same size as the original header.

1 7-9 (Canceled).
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1 10. (New) A network encryption method, comprising:
2 receiving a packet having a packet header and a packet payload;
3 identifying a first field of the packet header for carrying packet assembly information;
4 replacing the packet assembly information in the first field with a first encryption
5 value and a second encryption value;
6 encrypting original data associated with the packet payload in response to the first
7 encryption value and the second encryption value; and
8 forming an encrypted data packet including a modified header and encrypted data,
9 wherein the modified header has a same size as the packet header.

1 11. (New) The method according to claim 10, further comprising:
2 identifying a second field of the packet header for carrying packet assembly
3 information; and
4 replacing the packet assembly information in the second field with a third encryption
5 value.

1 12. (New) The method according to claim 11, wherein the identifying a first field
2 of the packet header for carrying packet assembly information includes identifying a fragment
3 identification in the packet header.

1 13. (New) The method according to claim 12, wherein the identifying a second
2 field of the packet header for carrying packet assembly information includes identifying a
3 fragment offset in the packet header.

1 14. (New) The method according to claim 13, wherein the replacing packet
2 assembly information in the first field with a first encryption value and a second encryption
3 value further includes writing a mixing key refreshing ratio value and a working key refresh
4 ratio in the first field.

1 15. (New) The method according to claim 14, wherein the replacing packet
2 assembly information in the second field with a third encryption value further includes writing
3 an offset of selecting key value in the second field.

1 16. (New) The method according to claim 10, further comprising receiving a
2 unique key identifier associated with the encrypted data packet.

1 17. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the packet and the
2 encrypted data packet utilize Internet Protocol version 4.

1 18. (New) The method according to claim 11, further includes activating
2 checksum in accordance with a checksum field in the packet header after the packet assembly
3 information in the first and the second fields is replaced with the first, second, and third
4 encryption values.